

**BUSINESS & LABOR**EXHIBIT NO. 4DATE 1-22-09BILL NO. SB190

SB190

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**From:****"Bruce MacIntyre" <Bruce@billingschamber.com>****To:**

Dear members of the Senate Business, Labor and Economic Affairs Committee,

The 4% Lodging Facility and use Tax has been a critical tool for our Convention and Visitors Bureau to use for tourism promotion. When this legislation was crafted some years ago, this was its sole purpose. Over the years funds have been siphoned off for other uses, and many other attempts to move this funding have been thwarted in various sessions of the legislature. It is a great tool and should be left alone. If we truly need new funding for heritage and historic preservation, perhaps it should be funded b from the 3% that was added to fund shortfalls in the general fund. We ask that you leave the Lodging Facility Use Tax as it is when you hear it next week.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bruce

**Bruce MacIntyre**

**Director, Government Affairs**

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